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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) A method of forming an alignment layer of a liquid crystal display element comprising the steps of:

displacing a base in a filming apparatus;

conducting a vapor stream of a material for an inorganic alignment layer displaced in the filming apparatus so as to enter into the base at an angle of 40 to 60 degrees with respect to a normal line of the base;

introducing oxygen gas into the filming apparatus at a prescribed gas pressure so as to evaporate the material for the inorganic alignment layer on the base; and

forming the inorganic alignment layer on the base so as to conduct produce a pretilt angle of liquid crystals to be at an angle of 3 to 10 degrees while simultaneously introducing oxygen gas into the filming apparatus at a prescribed gas pressure so as to evaporate the material for the inorganic alignment layer onto the base.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of forming an alignment layer of a liquid crystal display element in accordance with claim 2, wherein the gas pressure of the oxygen gas is 6×10^{-3} to 3×10^{-2} Pa.